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MINUTES OF THE SIXTIETH MEETING OF THE SUBCOMMITTEE ON
EXPLOITATION OF FOREIGN LANGUAGE PUBLICATIONS

2 December 1955

Present

Members: LTJG William E. Nyce, Navy
Maj. Howard G. Neumann, Air Force

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Consultants: William R. Hudson, Navy
Capt. Charles Colville, Jr., ATIC, Air Force
George Pughe, AID, Air Force

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1. The 60th meeting convened at 1400 hours. The minutes of the 59th meeting were approved with the following comments:

Mr. Lacey wished it understood that his reference to "non-NCNA" source material referred to that material not disseminated freely outside of Communist China. Further in Mr. Lacey's comments [page 2 of the 59th minutes] on the avoidance of duplication, after "FBIS" should be added "also other duplication which exists could be avoided."

Major Neumann's statement, page 3, delete "6004th AISS" and add "6002nd AISG." In the last line page 3, after the words "is not disseminated" add "as raw information but as targeting data."

2. Transliteration

The Chairman reminded the members that he had not received comments from all the members on this matter. Major Neumann answered that he could give an answer for Air Force in that the transliteration tables had been sent to all members of Air Force who could have use for them with direction that they be used. No check had been made on its implementation, but he was satisfied that it was being complied with.

3. Scientific and Technical Exploitation

Navy -- Mr. Hudson stated that the matter had been reviewed by Navy analysts and all were pleased with the current program and with FDD's proposals. However, since he did not have a copy of

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DCID 4/5 he wanted to be sure that the electronics field was covered under the new program as Navy has need for this subject.

The Chairman sketched the goal of the new program as follows:

With the influx of new periodicals we have the problem of what coverage to provide, either stick to the limited number of titles under the present program and ignore the new volume, or to expand the coverage to total receipts for the more important information and drop the present limited coverage on all subjects. The Subcommittee should endeavor to: (1) determine all requirements of the intelligence community; (2) draw up these requirements in priority order; (3) draw up a program for FDD which could cover top priorities and (4) recommend other procedures which could meet remaining requirements.

Air Force -- Major Neumann commented as follows:

Based on the experience gained during the 18 months that this abstracting program has been functioning, plus the expansion, as noted in the proposed program, Air suggests two things: (1) based on those mentioned he would like to have a reassessment of capability by all the agencies to determine if perhaps there is not a greater pool of effort available for this exploitation. The selected 55 periodicals which are now exploited were based upon an estimate in June 1954. But, in view of the obvious increase in material, he thought that some help could perhaps be provided by Army, Navy and NSA; (2) he thought the 55 titles presently exploited should be re-examined in view of the new titles coming in, also in the light of possible expansion over and above the 55 titles. Major Neumann proposed that an ad hoc meeting be held to discuss these two suggestions, to include specific titles and usability of material.

Capt. Colville said that as far as abstracting is concerned, Air did run a survey in ATIC of all 55 periodicals and it disclosed that these were considered of value to USAF. Reports in the program seemed quite satisfactory. He continued that mainly Air interests lie in the assessment of the abstracting program, to see where the capability now exists that perhaps didn't exist several months ago.

Maj. Neumann added that what makes this important to the Air Force at this time is (1) with the AID budget drop, the 13 titles they are doing are a considerable burden to them;

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(2) ATIC is in a similar position; limited number of people in the translating facilities, and being forced to contract out a large majority of material in this field.

The Chairman stated that he assumed that the Air Force had a basic requirement for periodical abstracting.

Captain Colville said this was so, including a need for additional titles; 6 on a priority basis, 9 on a second priority, and 4 on a spot reporting basis.

The Chairman wondered how many of the periodicals currently being received or anticipated need to be abstracted in the opinion of the Air Force.

Capt. Colville recalled the arrangement made on the original 156, aside from those 55 selected periodicals for abstracting, the remaining 101 would be done on an ad hoc basis. He added that as far as ATIC is concerned it would not be difficult to lay the requirements on an ad hoc basis, but it becomes a tremendous volume.

The Chairman was concerned as to what the existing requirements are. The Committee should know what they all are and recommend what should be done with the existing capability, then recommend additional manpower or funds for contractual purposes, so arrangements can be made to handle the remainder of the requirements. He asked how many of all these periodicals are there that require abstracting.

Capt. Colville replied that the 55 periodicals that are now in the main are of interest to ATIC. Out of the remaining 101 there are about 30% that he felt should be exploited and, then, if the capability permits add new ones.

The Chairman asked whether the other bloc periodicals, i.e. Satellites and China, should be abstracted.

Capt. Colville said that due to literary repetition by the Satellites, generally of Soviet writing, that we should concentrate most emphatically on the Soviet first.

The Chairman wished to get specific requirements, and asked whether there was any interest in China.

Capt. Colville replied that Air was not actively engaged in Chinese scientific and technical work, except to monitor the reports that come from those 55 selected periodicals.

Maj. Neumann said that ATIC is acting as advisors in the Far East and in a liaison capacity with the 6002nd. Any requirements directed toward Chinese work would be picked up by the 6002nd. Any other work would be contracted.

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The Chairman then felt that Air was not in accord with any part of the FDD proposal.

Capt. Colville replied that they are in accord with the titles that should be exploited, but he would like to see those additional items added.

AID -- Mr. Pughe asked whether the proposal went on the assumption that FDD no longer will participate in the abstracting program.

The Chairman said this was so, due to the insufficient manpower to handle all the periodicals and articles that were requested for abstracting. He continued that the proposal is an entirely new program keyed directly to the top priorities under DCID 4/5, i.e., nuclear energy, biological, and chemical warfare. He continued that there may be a little confusion as to what FDD proposed, and added that FDD is proposing that a program be set up under DCID 4/5 and proceed to provide the information on articles on these subjects automatically and that would require the total complement of its manpower. In doing this all the consumer analysts receiving such reports would have all the clues on all high priority subjects, and manpower would be keyed to what has been determined to be the highest priority.

Capt. Colville felt, unofficially, that the three top priorities would be far from covering the needs of ATIC.

25X1A9a [redacted] felt the proposal was a return to periodical abstracting which was voted down 18 months ago.

The Chairman suggested that the analyst has the complete take, for through the MLRA he knows every title and everything that appears in the periodicals.

Capt. Colville said that ATIC tries to relieve the analysts of the responsibility of going through all the tables of contents.

The Chairman suggested that it was extravagant to use manpower for duplicating commercial abstracting.

Capt. Colville said that a review of commercial abstracts about six months ago revealed there wasn't a sufficient amount of material in these abstracts for Air Force use.

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[redacted] indicated that CIA's requirements were the same now as those filed with the Subcommittee in April 1954.

C O N F I D E N T I A L

4. Agenda for the next meeting will be the continuation of the review of scientific and technical exploitation on the Soviet Bloc.

5. The meeting adjourned at 1545 hours. The next meeting will be held 16 December 1955 at 1400 hours in Room 2125 M Building.

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